

Andrew Hynes to Andrew Jackson, October 24, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

COLONEL ANDREW HYNES TO JACKSON.

Nashville, October 24, 1815.

Dear Genl. I have but a few days since returned from Kentucky, and while there I heard your name often mentioned most respectfully, yet there are some who still pretend to be dissatisfied, because the same meed of praise was not bestowed on the Kentuckians as was on the Troops of Tennessee. The portion of the discontented are so small that they form but a few black specks in the mass of the people. I was in Lexington when the Honl. Henry Clay arrived. There was great Joy manifested on the occasion. His return¹ was greeted by the most kindly welcome.

1 From Ghent.

On my return, I stayed all night at Genl Adair's and he really appears very well disposed towards you. He spoke of you in an anxious manner, and said that he had but little doubt with the proper management of your friends, that you might be elevated to the highest Office in the American Government. I do not know your sentiments or disposition on the occasion, and I know your delicacy will not permit you to speak or write about it, yet if the people of the united states should wish it you no doubt will acquiesc. Not only Genl adair, but many others of Kentucky are anxious for your elevation among whom are many of my friends at Bardstown. Yet I am sorry to say that the Representative from that place Mr. Benja. Hardin possesses such a cynical turn that he delights to find fault with every

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body. You may however get acquainted with him, and a few social Jokes or a little familiar conversation will make him very friendly.

I Recd. not long since the enclosed letter from Mr. Fletcher. It is confidential, and the information therein contained you can use as you think proper. So soon as Mr. Worsley's² disposition towards you is ascertained, perhaps some of your friends in this quarter may furnish the Reporter something on the above subject, which shall be published as coming from a citizen of Kenty.

² One of the editors of the *Lexington Reporter*. See Worsley and Smith to Jackson, March 22, 1817, *post*, where it appears that the editors were strongly opposed to Jackson's views of the conduct of the Kentucky troops at New Orleans.

Whatever may be the present sentiments of the people of America, I will venture to pronounce they will be entirely swayed by the nomination of the caucus of members of congress at washington and the broad field of Elective prerogative will be reduced down to the capricious opinions of a few men. I hope you will give a hearty response to all the kind attentions which may be paid you by members of congress. Altho' they may not be great men, yet they have power in the Nation.

I have many friends in Balto. and Phila. and I have understood several of them are of the same sentiments of Mr. Carswell, but not having seen them personally for about two years I can hardly know their dispositions Will you be good enough to call on those gentlemen Macdonald and Ridgeley and Luke Turman and Co (eminent Merchants) to whom the enclosed letters are addressed and let yourself be known to them. They are my particular friends; and they are popular merchants.

Should Mrs. Jackson be willing to spend a retired hour in the company of a plain quaker woman, whom she will find an affectionate friend I hope she will call on Mrs. Catherine Smith, and for that purpose I have given you a letter to her husband Matthew Smith. I only mention those two last as displaying the greatest simplicity of manners, which you

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may contrast with the gay extravagance which will surround you at other places. They are not considered among the fashionables, and as the Rich and the gay will be emulous to entertain you, you may not be doing right to mingle with the humble. Permit me to remark that Mr. Turman is a catholick and has great weight among that people and by his wealth and sterling Integrity is universally esteemed. Macdonald and Ridgeley are popular with the Irish and have long been and are now the most particular friends of Majr. Jas Smiley of Bardstown.

I will probably have it in my power to pay you and Mrs. Jackson a visit during your tour in the north this winter.

I am respectfully